

Response to Restriction Requirement

Applicant: Jerald A. Hammann

Serial No.: 09/840,332

Filed: April 23, 2001

Docket No.: H238.101.101

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD EMPLOYING YIELD MANAGEMENT IN HUMAN-FACTOR RESOURCE INDUSTRY

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-30 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 31-35 as follows:

1.-30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) A computer-based method for yield management in human factor resource industries, comprising:

~~determining transaction parameter values for composite resources having at least one human factor resource which includes a transaction price calculated using yield management techniques; and~~

accepting transaction parameter values for composite resources, wherein each composite resource has associated therewith at least a service location and at least one of a service date and a service time;

communicating at least a portion of the transaction parameter values for at least one composite resource to at least one potential user of the composite resource, the communication attempting to modify at least one of the demand for the at least one composite resource and the capacity of the at least one composite resource, wherein at least one of the transaction parameter values communicated is a transaction price calculated using yield management techniques;

wherein the service time is a time measure indicating a present or future first time when the service is available;

wherein the communication takes place prior to the assignment of other concurrently-consumed and/or utilized composite resources to the at least one potential user;

wherein the capacity of the at least one composite resource is a measure of the on-hand supply and/or availability, if applicable, of the at least one composite resource at a first time plus a measure of an ability to produce and/or make available additional quantities of the at least one composite resource over a first time period beginning at the first time and ending at a second time; and

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wherein the demand for the at least one composite resource is a measure of the on-hand consumption and/or utilization, if applicable, of the at least one composite resource at the first time plus a measure of an ability to consume and/or utilize additional quantities of the at least one composite resource over the first time period.

32. (Currently Amended) A computer-based yield management system in human factor resource industries, comprising:

~~means for determining transaction parameter values for composite resources having at least one human factor resource which includes a transaction price calculated using yield management techniques; and~~

means for accepting transaction parameter values for composite resources, wherein each composite resource has associated therewith at least a service location and at least one of a service date and a service time;

means for communicating at least a portion of the transaction parameter values for at least one composite resource to at least one user, the communication attempting to modify at least one of the demand for the at least one composite resource and the capacity of the at least one composite resource, wherein at least one of the transaction parameter values communicated is a transaction price calculated using yield management techniques;

wherein the service time is a time measure indicating a present or future first time when the service is available;

wherein the communication takes place prior to the assignment of other concurrently-consumed and/or utilized composite resources to the at least one potential user;

wherein the capacity of the at least one composite resource is a measure of the on-hand supply and/or availability, if applicable, of the at least one composite resource at a first time plus a measure of an ability to produce and/or make available additional quantities of the at least one composite resource over a first time period beginning at the first time and ending at a second time; and

wherein the demand for the at least one composite resource is a measure of the on-hand consumption and/or utilization, if applicable, of the at least one composite resource at the first

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time plus a measure of an ability to consume and/or utilize additional quantities of the at least one composite resource over the first time period.

33. (Currently Amended) A yield management system comprising:

a storage device storing a program; and

a processor connected to the storage device and controlled by the program, the processor operative with the program to ~~determine-accept~~ transaction parameter values for composite resources ~~having at least one human factor resource which includes an offer price calculated using yield management techniques in prepared-food service industries, wherein each composite resource has associated therewith at least a service location and at least one of a service date and a service time, and to communicate at least a portion of the transaction parameter values for at least one composite resource to at least one user, the communication attempting to modify at least one of the demand for the at least one composite resource and the capacity of the at least one composite resource, wherein at least one of the transaction parameter values communicated is a transaction price calculated using yield management techniques;~~

wherein the service time is a time measure indicating a present or future first time when the service is available;

wherein the communication takes place prior to the assignment of other concurrently-consumed and/or utilized composite resources to the at least one potential user;

wherein the capacity of the at least one composite resource is a measure of the on-hand supply and/or availability, if applicable, of the at least one composite resource at a first time plus a measure of an ability to produce and/or make available additional quantities of the at least one composite resource over a first time period beginning at the first time and ending at a second time; and

wherein the demand for the at least one composite resource is a measure of the on-hand consumption and/or utilization, if applicable, of the at least one composite resource at the first time plus a measure of an ability to consume and/or utilize additional quantities of the at least one composite resource over the first time period.

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34. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium containing program instructions for controlling a computer to perform a method comprising:

~~receiving data related to individual resources and associated composite resources, wherein the individual resources include human factor resources, and wherein the associated composite resources each include a collection of at least two of the individual resources;~~

accepting transaction parameter values related to individual resources and associated composite resources, wherein the associated composite resources each include a collection of at least two of the individual resources, wherein at least one of the transaction parameter values communicated is a transaction price calculated using yield management techniques;

storing the data related to the individual resources and the associated composite resources;

constructing internal data structures which link each of the individual resources to their associated composite resources and link each of the composite resources to their associated individual resources; and

~~determining transaction parameter values using the internal data structures for one of the composite resources having at least one human factor resource which includes a transaction price calculated with yield management techniques.~~

indicating, if capacity of a composite resource exceeds demand for the composite resource, that the demand for the composite resource should be increased;

wherein the service time is a time measure indicating a present or future first time when the service is available;

wherein the communication takes place prior to the assignment of other concurrently-consumed and/or utilized composite resources to the at least one potential user;

wherein the capacity of a composite resource is a measure of the on-hand supply and/or availability, if applicable, of the composite resource at a first time plus a measure of an ability to produce and/or make available additional quantities of the composite resource over a first time period beginning at the first time and ending at a second time; and

wherein the demand for a composite resource is a measure of the on-hand consumption and/or utilization, if applicable, of the composite resource at the first time plus a measure of an

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ability to consume and/or utilize additional quantities of the composite resource over the first time period.

35. (Currently Amended) A computer-based method for producing composite resource transactions, the method comprising:

~~determining transaction parameter values for composite resources having at least one human factor resource which includes an offer price calculated using yield management techniques;~~

accepting transaction parameter values for composite resources in prepared-food service industries, wherein each composite resource has associated therewith at least a service location and at least one of a service date and a service time;

communicating at least a portion of the transaction parameter values for at least one composite resource to at least one potential user, the communication attempting to modify at least one of the demand for the at least one composite resource and the capacity of the at least one composite resource, wherein at least one of the transaction parameter values communicated is a transaction price calculated using yield management techniques; and

receiving a responding communication from at least one user binding the at least one composite resource with specified transaction parameter values;

wherein the service time is a time measure indicating a present or future first time when the service is available;

wherein the communication takes place prior to the assignment of other concurrently-consumed and/or utilized composite resources to the at least one potential user;

wherein the capacity of the at least one composite resource is a measure of the on-hand supply and/or availability, if applicable, of the at least one composite resource at a first time plus a measure of an ability to produce and/or make available additional quantities of the at least one composite resource over a first time period beginning at the first time and ending at a second time; and

wherein the demand for the at least one composite resource is a measure of the on-hand consumption and/or utilization, if applicable, of the at least one composite resource at the first

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time plus a measure of an ability to consume and/or utilize additional quantities of the at least
one composite resource over the first time period.